

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 04495 260906Z
ACTION EA-06

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1336

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4495

LIMDIS

FOR EA ONLY

DEPT PASS NSC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, KS
SUBJ: LETTER TO DR BRZEZINSKI FROM YANG IL DONG

FOLLOWING IS DRAFT PROPOSED FOR DR BRZEZINSKI IN RESPONSE TO
LETTER RECEIVED BY HIM DURING VISIT TO KOREA FROM MR YANG IL
DONG, PRESIDENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC UNIFICATION PARTY.

BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR YANG:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF MAY 23 AND FOR THE CORDIAL
WELCOME YOU AND YOUR FELLOW CITIZENS EXTENDED TO MY COLLEAGUES
AND MYSELF DURING OUR RECENT VISIT TO KOREA. THE FRIENDLINESS
OF THE GREETING WAS UNFORGETTABLE AND PROVIDED A VIVID REMINDER
OF THE CLOSE TIES OUR NATIONS HAVE ENJOYED FOR NEARLY THIRTY
YEARS AND ASSURANCE THAT THE PERSONAL FEELINGS BETWEEN OUR
PEOPLES HAVE LOST NONE OF THEIR TRADITIONAL WARMTH.

IN ADDITION TO THE FRIENDLY CHARACTER OF THE WELCOME,
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OUR VISIT TO KOREA WAS MADE PARTICULARLY MEMORABLE BY
THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH PEOPLE LIKE
YOURSELF ON MATTERS OF VITAL CONCERN TO BOTH NATIONS.
YOUR LETTER OUTLINING YOUR VIEWS OF THE CURRENT SITUATION
IN KOREA WAS OF GREAT HELP TO ME IN ACHIEVING A BETTER
UNDERSTANDING OF THE ISSUES BOTH NATIONS FACE. I AM
MOST GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR THE TROUBLE YOU HAVE TAKEN TO

KEEP US INFORMED AND FOR YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS IN GIVING
ME A COPY OF THE KOREAN TRANSLATION OF MY BOOK "THE
FRAGILE BLOSSOM".

AS YOU KNOW, MY GOVERNMENT IS DEEPLY CONCERNED WITH
PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. OUR
COMMITMENT TO THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS IS AN INTEGRAL
PART OF OUR COMMITMENT TO THE SECURITY OF THE REPUBLIC
OF KOREA, AND WE HAVE MADE CLEAR TO THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT
THE EXTENT OF OUR FEELINGS IN THIS REGARD. AT THE SAME
TIME, THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT SEEK TO DICTATE THE
INTERNAL POLITICAL PROCESSES OF OTHER NATIONS. THE
STURCTURE AND PROCEDURES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF KOREA ARE
FOR THE KOREAN PEOPLE TO DECIDE.

THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH YOU AND YOUR FELLOW CITIZENS
HAVE ENCOUNTERED IN YOUR STRUGGLES ENTITLE YOU TO THE
ADMIRATION AND SYMPATHY OF ALL PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE
WORLD. FOR ME PERSONALLY IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO HAVE MET
WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS SPENT A LIFETIME DEVOTED TO THE
PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY. I HOPE YOU WILL CONVEY MY
THOUGHTS TO ALL OF YOUR COLLEAGUES WHO WORK IN SUPPORT
OF IDEALS WE SHARE. SINCERELY, END TEXT.
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